IBM Docket No. FR995041

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Improvements in Data Communications

the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above- identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

<u>Number</u>	Country	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed
96480121.1	Europe	20 Dec. 1996	Yes

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Applications

Serial No. Filing Date Status

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Thomas F. Galvin, Reg. No. 25,394; Horace St. Julian, Reg. No. 30,329; Joscelyn G. Cockburn, Reg. No. 27,069; Gerald R. Woods, Reg. No. 24,144; John J. Timar, Reg. No. 32,497; and John D. Flynn, Reg. No. 35,137.

Send all correspondence to: Gerald R. Woods, IBM Corporation 972/B656; PO Box 12195; Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

First Inventor: Signature:	Jean Calvignac Jeen L. Calvignac	TANUARY 21, 1918 Date
Residence:	187 Chemin des Vallieres 06610 La Gaude, France	

Citizenship: French Post Office Address:

Second Inventor: Fabrice Verplanken Verplanken Signature: Date 95AN98

1 Avenue des Lauriers Residence: 06610 La Gaude, France

Citizenship: French Same

Post Office Address:

French

Third Inventor: **Daniel Orsatti** 9 Jan 98 Orealt Signature:

900, Chemin des colles 06610 La Gaude, France Le Dauphin Blea Residence: 11 Allee des Bouleaux

06800 Cagnes Sur Mer, France

Citizenship: Post Office Address: Same